

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1407

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide that the decoration known as the Purple Heart may only be awarded to members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 1997

Mr. STUMP (for himself, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. GOODE, and Mr. HILL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on National Security

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide that the decoration known as the Purple Heart may only be awarded to members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PURPLE HEART TO BE AWARDED ONLY TO**
4 **MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 57 of title 10, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
7 ing new section:

1 **“§ 1131. Purple Heart: limitation to members of the**
2 **armed forces**

3 “The decoration known as the Purple Heart (author-
4 ized to be awarded pursuant to Executive Order 11016)
5 may only be awarded to a person who is a member of the
6 armed forces at the time the person is killed or wounded
7 under circumstances otherwise qualifying that person for
8 award of the Purple Heart.”.

9 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such
10 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following
11 new item:

“1131. Purple Heart: limitation to members of the armed forces.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 1131 of title 10,
13 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall
14 apply with respect to persons who are killed or wounded
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

16 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AWARD FOR CIVIL-
17 IANS.—The President shall establish a decoration to be
18 awarded to persons other than members of the Armed
19 Forces who while serving under competent authority in
20 any capacity with the Armed Forces are killed or wounded
21 under circumstances which, if they were members of the
22 Armed Forces, would qualify them for award of the Purple
23 Heart. The color and design of the decoration so estab-

- 1 lished shall be distinct from the color and design of the
- 2 Purple Heart.

